

World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
Sunday, September 1, 2019

Pope Francis instituted the World Day of Prayer in 2015. The day is meant to “offer individual believers and communities a fitting opportunity to reaffirm their personal vocation to be stewards of creation...to thank God and to implore his help...” Pope Francis, August 6, 2015. Bishop Persico encourages pastors to choose a celebration that will work for their parish community(ies) from the three options described on the attached document.

The Secretariat of the USCCB suggests the following options for celebrating the **World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation** on September 1st:

Option A: Use “For the Sanctification of Human Labor” formulary from
Masses for Various Needs and Occasions

- Consider the second Collect of formulary A, a “fitting option,” says the USCCB
- Select Preface V “Creation”
- Choose one reading from the Blessing of Human Labor: Lectionary # 907-911
 - The USCCB Secretariat recommends Genesis 2:4b-9, 15, # 907-2; for the First Reading, (***The Lord planted a garden and placed there the man he had formed***). and Psalm 90, # 909-1 (***Before the mountains were begotten, you are God.***) Variable antiphons for Ps 90 include: *Fill us with your love O lord and we will sing for joy; In every age O Lord you have been our refuge; or, If today you hear his voice harden not your heart.*
 - The remaining readings are taken from the day.
 - Connect the human labor theme (Labor Day, September 2nd) and the theme of the Care of Creation through the Homily and the Universal Prayer.

Option B: Use the “For the Sanctification of Human Labor” formulary as above

- Select Preface V “Creation”
- Keep all the Readings of the Day

Option C: No changes to Mass Formularies or Readings

- Mention care of creation in Homily, Universal Prayer petitions, and concluding announcements